

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A thermal fixing device comprising:
a fixing roller configured to be in contact with a fixation medium;
a first pressing member disposed to face and contact the fixing roller and presses the fixation medium to the fixing roller; and
a second pressing member disposed to face and contact the fixing roller at a position downstream in a conveyance direction of the fixation medium with respect to the first pressing member and presses the fixation medium to the fixing roller,
wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply to a developer on the fixation medium to be pressed by the first pressing member a temperature not lower than a glass transition point of the developer, ~~and~~
wherein a dry toner is applied to the fixation medium, and
wherein a pressing force per unit area of the first pressing member is configured to be larger than a pressing force per unit area of the second pressing member.
2. (Previously Presented) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply to the developer on the fixation medium to be pressed by the first pressing member a temperature not lower than a softening point of the developer.
3. (Previously Presented) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply to an interface between the fixation medium and the developer a temperature not lower than a softening point of the developer.

4. (Previously Presented) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply the temperature to the developer at a position most downstream in the conveyance direction in a contact portion between the fixing roller and the first pressing member.

5. (Previously Presented) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply the temperature to the developer at a position most downstream in the conveyance direction in a contact portion between the fixing roller and the first pressing member.

6. (Previously Presented) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply the temperature to the interface at a position most downstream in the conveyance direction in a contact portion between the fixing roller and the first pressing member.

7. (Original) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an endless belt stretched between the first pressing member and the second pressing member.

8-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
a sheet feeding section configured to feed a sheet as a fixation medium; and
an image forming section having a thermal fixing device and configured to form an image on the sheet fed by the sheet feeding section,
wherein the thermal fixing device comprises:
a fixing roller configured to be in contact with a fixation medium;
a first pressing member disposed to face and contact the fixing roller and presses the fixation medium to the fixing roller; and

a second pressing member disposed to face and contact the fixing roller at a position downstream in a conveyance direction of the fixation medium with respect to the first pressing member and presses the fixation medium to the fixing roller,

wherein the fixing roller and the first pressing member apply to a developer on the fixation medium to be pressed by the first pressing member a temperature not lower than a glass transition point of the developer, ~~and~~

wherein a dry toner is applied to the fixation medium, and

wherein a pressing force per unit area of the first pressing member is configured to be larger than a pressing force per unit area of the second pressing member.

22-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A thermal fixing device comprising:

a fixing member configured to be in contact with a fixation medium;

a first pressing member disposed to face the fixing member and presses the fixation medium to the fixing member; and

a second pressing member disposed to face the fixing member at a position downstream in a conveyance direction of the fixation medium with respect to the first pressing member and presses the fixation medium to the fixing member,

wherein the fixing member and the first pressing member apply to a developer on the fixation medium to be pressed by the first pressing member a temperature not lower than a glass transition point of the developer,

wherein the fixing member and the first pressing member apply to the developer on the fixation medium to be pressed by the first pressing member a temperature not lower than a softening point of the developer, ~~and~~

wherein a dry toner is applied to the fixation medium, and

wherein a pressing force per unit area of the first pressing member is configured to be larger than a pressing force per unit area of the second pressing member.

27. (Currently Amended) A thermal fixing device comprising:

a fixing member configured to be in contact with a fixation medium;

a first pressing member disposed to face the fixing member and presses the fixation medium to the fixing member; and

a second pressing member disposed to face the fixing member at a position downstream in a conveyance direction of the fixation medium with respect to the first pressing member and presses the fixation medium to the fixing member,

wherein the fixing member and the first pressing member apply to a developer on the fixation medium to be pressed by the first pressing member a temperature not lower than a glass transition point of the developer,

wherein the fixing member and the first pressing member apply to an interface between the fixation medium and the developer a temperature not lower than a softening point of the developer, and

wherein a dry toner is applied to the fixation medium, and

wherein a pressing force per unit area of the first pressing member is configured to be larger than a pressing force per unit area of the second pressing member.

28. (New) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first pressing member comprises a first pressing roller, and the second pressing member comprises a second pressing roller.

29. (New) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 28, wherein a diameter of the first pressing roller is configured to be larger than a diameter of the second pressing roller.

30. (New) The thermal fixing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein a hardness of a portion of the first pressing member that contacts with the fixation medium is configured to

be higher than a hardness of a portion of the second pressing member that contacts with the fixation medium.